

Double house
2218 E. Main St., Richmond
Henrico Co., Virginia

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Eugene Bradbury, District Officer
210 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia

THE DOUBLE HOUSE

2216 - 2218 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia

Owner: Charles Michael, 2302 East Marshall Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Date of Erection: 1814

Builder: Richard Adams

Present Condition: The double house and two small buildings in rear shown by the drawings are in a very bad state of repair. The brick walls of the double house are in fair condition, with the exception of the rear wall which is bulged perceptibly. The original interior woodwork, including the mantels, generally is in place and covered with dirt. The plastering is in poor condition, as is the whole interior, being occupied, with the exception of the store on the first floor, by negroes. The building originally had a pitched roof with gabled ends which the owner sometime was removed about 1908 and replaced with a flat roof because of the weight of the original roof. At one time, also, the original cornice was replaced by the present one. An old photograph shows that the windows had blinds which are now gone. There is evidence that a three story building on each side of this double house of similar height and character has been removed.

Number of Stories: At the present the double house is three stories high, but originally had an attic with dormers, since removed. In the rear of each of these houses is a small two story brick building, also in bad condition.

Materials of Construction: The exterior walls and two interior walls of the first floor on each side of the passage-way are brick; all other interior walls are frame. The floors and roof are frame construction; the roof covered with tin. The interior walls and ceilings are plastered, with the exception of board partitions inserted by owner, subdividing rooms.

Other Existing Records: Lot No. 38 is recorded in the Tax Records as follows:

In 1815 part of Lot No. 38, owned by Richard Adams, was valued at \$3,860 with a notation of a new unfinished tenement.

Abstract of Title:

Part of Lot No. 38 owned by Richard Adams, to John Enders by deed of trust, July 1, 1816.
(Thomas Pulling, Executive.)

John Enders to John Enders estate by will,
May 23, 1854.

John Enders estate to John Merrello, Sr.,
John Merrello, Jr., and William Merrello,
May 1, 1887.

John Merrello and William Merrello to Charles
Michael, March 3, 1906.

Additional Data: In the olden days the double house, commonly called the "Actors Boarding House," served its purpose for the actors who stayed in that section of Richmond known as the "Bird-in-Hand."

Bibliography:

Edgar Allan Poe, The Man, by Mary E. Phillips. Published by the John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Copyright 1926.

Personal Interview with Mr. James H. Whitty.

Property Books, City of Richmond, Virginia.

Deed Books, filed in the Chancery Court, City of Richmond, Virginia.

Virginia Thompson
Supervising Historian

Approved: June 26, 1936

Eugene Bradbury
MAJOR EUGENE BRADBURY, A.I.A.
District Officer

Rev. Jan 1/37 TTW